

The Times Dispatch

GENEALOGICAL COLUMN

10-17-09 (1)

Virginia a Genealogy

It is hard for us to resist the "sweet questionings" of our genealogical friends, and again we take time to tell them all we know on certain subjects—wishing indeed that our knowledge began with all the forefathers who are worth remembering and ended only with the latest addition to all of the first families. This would be a remarkable sort of knowledge, for "first families" are extremely elastic, and to recognize them all is a herculean task.

On Sunday, October 24th, we will begin with the Rappahannock country. Starting at Fredericksburg, we will relate fact and tradition, and give the genealogy of many families who made this fascinating and historic locality.

Another Harrison Family.
Andrew Harrison moved from Goodland county, Va., in 1761, and bought lands in Pittsylvania and Halifax counties in Virginia, and in Caswell county, in North Carolina. His will was probated in Albemarle, N. C., and was dated in the "Province of Orange" (the Caswell county of to-day). Tradition in his family says that he was of the James River family of Harrison's, cousin of General William Henry Harrison, who was President of the United States and of Berkeley and Brandon Harrison. It was suggested that he was descended from John Harrison, the Governor of Bermuda Islands. A John Harrison settled in Halifax county about the same time, who names in his will (recorded in Halifax) a son, Andrew, also wife, Sarah, and wife's brother, John Williams (Daniel), and other sons. Andrew Harrison names in his will: Daughters—Milly Moore (wife of William Moore), Ann Ware (wife of John Ware), and several other daughters—Elizabeth, Molly and others; sons—Thomas, William, Andrew and Ninian. Thomas, the first son, married twice—first, Miss Pendleton; second, Miss Kennon (see Goodland marriage bonds), daughter of William Kennon (son of Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence) and his wife; Colonel Charles Lewis, of "The Bird," Goodland county. There was issue by both marriages.

Thomas Harrison was major of North Carolina troops during the Revolution (see "The Wheeler" History of North Carolina). He will is on record in Caswell county, N. C. William Harrison, second son of Andrew Harrison, married in Goodland county in 1764 (see Goodland county marriage bonds) Anna Payne, daughter of John Payne and Anna (see Goodland marriage bonds). She was sister of Colonel John Payne, father of Dolly Madison.

He was captain of Goodland militia in 1768; moved to Pittsylvania county in 1811. He was one of the trustees appointed to lay out the town of Danville in 1792. With Robert Wilson, Robert Payne (wife's brother), Paul Carrington and other "gentlemen," he was appointed to have the channel of Roanoke and Dan Rivers cleared. (See Henning's Statutes.) He and his wife were witnesses to the will of Colonel Charles Lewis, of "The Bird." His family Bible records twelve children. Some died young, but those who lived to manhood and womanhood were: First, Susannah Harrison, the eldest, born 1768; married William Ware, her cousin, Robert Harrison married his cousin, daughter of Robert Payne. Third, Jane Harrison, married a Mr. Henley. Fourth, Mary Dillard Harrison, married Edmund Richardson (son of James Richardson). Mary Dillard Harrison and Edmund Richardson had three children.

First, Robert Payne Richardson, died of yellow fever in New Orleans in the course of the forties; unmarried. Second, William Harrison Richardson, married Mary Dupuy; had five children; moved to Mississippi and died in Jackson. Third, Anne Elizabeth Richardson, married Captain A. G. Walters and left five children—Robert Alexander, Felix, Archibald Edmund, Mary Catherine, married Christopher G. Holland, and Elizabeth Payne, married Calvin M. Flinn. Fifth, Anna Harrison, married Colonel Daniel Coleman of Goodland and Pittsylvania. Sixth, William Porter Harrison and his youngest brother (seventh), Nathaniel Harrison, went south. Can some reader of this column give me some more information on them? Andrew Harrison, married, first, Nancy Williamson, daughter of Stephen Williamson, of Goodland and Caswell county, and, second, Mary Richardson, daughter of James Richardson, of Pittsylvania county. Issue by both marriages. Ninian, the fourth son, married Andrew Harrison, died unmarried. There are two deeds on record in Goodland county, made to Andrew and Charles Harrison, bearing the same date, 1754.

Now the genealogical perplexity which is troubling the descendant of Andrew Harrison, who went from Goodland to Pittsylvania, etc., is, who was his father? This is the query proposed by one constant reader, E. H. B., and others. The name Andrew does not appear in the recorded genealogy of the great-grandfather, Brandon and Berkeley. He was not of this family, we are sure, nor can we find who was his father.

The Paynes lived in Goodland county, too, where Andrew Harrison also settled. The first we find was George, who married Mary Woodson, of New Kent county, as well as Woodson, Carthage and Watkins, of this man's descent now in Virginia, who would be greatly interested in anything you could find to publish.

Yours very truly,
J. T. BAPTIST.

Robert Burton (3) married Margaret Lyndeman, daughter of Joseph Morton, of St. Joseph, Mo., who has made extensive investigation along that line. He has found John Morton, who lived in Northumberland county in 1695, and who then bought land in Richmond county. In 1713 a John Morton qualified as lieutenant of militia in Richmond county. He had a son, John Morton, Jr., who married Mary Mountjoy, and her parents gave to Mary a tract of land in Sittenbourn Parish, in Richmond county. Dr. Morton thinks this John, lieutenant of militia, etc., the father of Joseph Morton.

Lieutenant John Morton married Mary Mountjoy, daughter of Mary Lane and Alvin Mountjoy. This adaptable Mary Lane married, first, Alvin Mountjoy, and had Mary, who married John Morton. Then she married Elias Wilson, and thirdly, Joseph Bellhead. She and Joseph gave Mary Morton the land above mentioned. The first John Morton married Deborah (7). He had Richard, James, Thomas, William, who married probably Ann Mothershead and removed to Orange county, and John, who married Mary Mountjoy, and had Joseph, who married, first, Frances Colston; second, Margaret Beckwith. George married Lucy, daughter of Robert and Frances Bayler. Mary married Jonathan Sydenham. Frances married, first, Nicholas Martwether, and second, Dr. Samuel Pryor.

It appears to us that Joseph Morton, the Burgess, was this son of John. Probably, however, there were two Joseph Mortons.

Answers to Queries.
Miss S. E. Bassett—Crosser's Virginia Heraldical which contains the most complete list of the arms of Virginia families does not mention the Pannill Arms.

Mrs. E. J. W., Charlottesville, Va.—The Mayo emigrants was William who came over in 1723, with his wife and four daughters. I find no mention of a gentleman by name of Ross coming with him. There is, however, a Mayo-Ross connection.

Col. William Mayo the emigrant had a son John (2), who married Mary Tabb. He had William (3), who married Elizabeth Blum Poythress and had Joseph (4). Hearne Mayo who had a daughter, Abby (5) Mayo. She married Col. John Thom of "Berry Hill," Culpeper county.

Contributors to the Sunday Confederate Column are requested from veterans and others familiar with Confederate history. Narratives of engagements and personal reminiscences are especially desired. Address all communications to Editor of the Confederate Column, Times-Dispatch.

THE LAST FIGHT OF THE ALAKAMA

Lieut. Sinclair's Graphic Story of the Great Battle With the Kearsarge.

The recent centenary of Raphael Semmes was marked by impressive services throughout the South. The daring of the great Confederate sea captain, his devotion to the Confederate cause, and his skill as a mariner were all recalled. Strangely enough, little was said about his famous fight with the Kearsarge—the most famous sea battle of the war, excepting only the engagement between the Virginia and the Monitor. Accordingly, a survey of the battle is appropriate at this time.

One of the best accounts of the fight was that written by Lieutenant Arthur Sinclair, of the Alabama. The following abstract is made from his graphic narrative:

Final preparations for the fight began early on Sunday morning, June 19, 1864. The Alabama was in a crowd of twentieth-century Americans, north as well as south of Mason and Dixon's line, has been noticed by the average American. In most cases, perhaps, he does not take the trouble to figure out the reason for this popularity, but he is fully aware that it exists.

"Why is it that 'Dixie' when played by a band, always gets more applause than anything else?" Probably there are several reasons. Certainly the "Dixie" was under the popular eye, not altogether explain "Dixie's" popularity, although doubtless it has much to do with it.

The enthusiasm for "Dixie" probably has in it something of a tribute to the gallant, losing fight of the South during the Civil War. Fast or slow, moreover, has given the South an air of romance that appeals to the man in the street. One of our friends was once asked, "What is the popularity of the 'Dixie'?" and he answered, "It is the only song that the people next them will be struck by the idea that in their veins runs the best blood of Virginia or the Carolina."

Perhaps again the popularity of "Dixie" is the North is in part a tribute to the vanishing Anglo-Saxon of the Northern States to the still dominant Anglo-Saxon of the South. There is no purer Anglo-Saxon stock in the world than the white people in the Southern States of the Union. Lee's army of Northern Virginia was more purely Anglo-Saxon than the army which Marlboro commanded at Blenheim; than Wellington's thin red line at Waterloo; or than the troops which followed Fowls and Kitchener in South Africa. In the North and East the Anglo-Saxon is being swallowed up in the rush of newcomers from the Old World. He has been objecting mildly, it is true, to the "Dixie" when it is played, but at heart he does not like it. It is perhaps shown, vaguely, indirectly, but yet clearly, in the applause for "Dixie."

No American of the North objects to the popularity of "Dixie." The "Dixie" has long since lost its popularity north of the Ohio. In fact, the Southern enjoys a prestige of his own in the North. "Dixie" itself is an inspiring battle song. Its music is less impressive, but more American than the music of the Star-Spangled Banner, and it is more popular. It is a part of our history, and the rest comes from its popularity to which no other in the Union can make reasonable objection.

THAT SHARP BRUSH AT RICH MOUNTAIN

Federal General Keifer Describes Fight in Which Jno. Augustine Washington Lost His Life and W. H. F. Lee Narrowly Escaped.

The early presentation to Lee Camp of Colonel John Augustine Washington's portrait lends a particular interest to recent reminiscences of Brigadier-General J. Warren Keifer, U. S. A., of the battle of Rich Mountain, where the gallant Washington fell.

"Bull Run is given as the first battle of the war. And so it was, being fought on July 21, but Rich Mountain, where our loss was twelve killed and forty-nine wounded, and where we got twenty-one prisoners, fifty stand of arms, and two pieces of artillery, was fought on July 11. At midnight on the 10th the column of my regiment, Mexican War veterans, returned from a conference with General George B. McClellan and William S. Rosecrans. He called us together, officers and men, and said:

"The assault on the enemy's works will be made in the early morning. The Third will lead the column. The Second and Tenth will follow. They are strongly fortified. They have more men and more cannon than we have. They will cut us to pieces. Marching at night, with no sleep, no food, and no arms, is marching to a butchery. It is a bloody work ahead. Many of you boys will go out never to come back again."

"So Rich Mountain," General Keifer went on to say, "impressed me. After the battle eight private soldiers and myself were picked to watch for Robert E. Lee's cavalry. We heard horses splashing through the water of a nearby stream. An instant later his advance of his men, turned the head immediately in front of us. One of them was John Augustine Washington, great-grandson of George Washington's brother, and the other was Major W. H. F. Lee, son of the afterward famous Confederate general.

"When they saw us they turned in an attempt to get away. I ordered my men to fire. Four of the six bullets aimed at Washington went true to the mark. Two missed at Lee. They missed him, but killed his horse. He leaped over our Washington's horse, however, and escaped. When I looked over Washington he feebly called for water. Before it could be brought he was dead. He wore gold-plated spurs, had a gold watch, and his clothing was of the best quality. We gave his body and his property to Robert E. Lee. Later he was buried at Wavoland, his plantation, in Virginia. His son lives in this city, and I am glad to count him among my friends."

"Let me tell you another story of Rich Mountain," General Keifer said. "Captain Julius A. de Lagnal, who had been captured while a Federal officer at Fayetteville, N. C., who had promptly resigned his commission in the United States Army, and who immediately joined the Confederates, was reported killed at Rich Mountain. McClellan and other graduates from West Point recognized him, and he was not recognized by the South as one of its first heroes, and hundreds of funeral sermons were preached in his glory. Well, one day this summer the son of John Augustine Washington and myself went to Alexandria, Va., to visit Captain de Lagnal. We saw, he was only wounded at Rich Mountain. He remained at a house of a farmer for a month. While walking through the woods with his shoes in his hands, trying to find the Confederates, he was captured, and in a few days was sent to a Northern prison. He was soon exchanged and afterward became a brigadier-general."

Perhaps no siege of the War Between the States bore so hardly upon the troops engaged as the long, weary months before Petersburg. Days of battle followed by fearful monotony upon nights made hideous by the bombardment. Nerve-racking days on the skirmish line, it seemed to me, only ended in weary nights spent waiting for an attack through the darkness. For months there was scarcely a day when the roar of artillery or the rattle of small arms did not resound unceasingly along the line.

But with all its horrors there were some humorous aspects of the siege. In particular, I recall with interest the bombardment was at its height. By that time the boys had become used to the unending hail, and paid but little heed to the noise. On this occasion, I remember, three or four of my comrades, who happened to be off duty for the time, had erected a sort of awning, and were peacefully placing their muskets in the ground and stretching a blanket over the backs. Under this improvised shelter they were sleeping. On this occasion the enemy found our range with a mortar on the opposite ridge. Each shell would explode nearer and nearer to the line, but they failed to arouse the boys. "Look out there, boys!" some one cried; "The Yankees have got your range."

"Let them fire," said one of the players; "we aren't going to stop this game." And so they kept up their high-low-jack with shells falling close about them. At last one shell struck the hie of a falling missile, and before we knew it a bomb had hit the awning under which the boys were sleeping. The tremendous cloud of smoke, from which we could see the protruding arms and legs of the boys, was thought, certainly, they were all dead. But, fortunately, when the dust had settled, we found them unharmed. The bomb, by some miraculous chance, had fallen right between the men, had failed to explode until some feet below the ground, and consequently had not injured them in the slightest.

The boys stood by for a few seconds rubbing themselves to make sure they were alive. Then one of them spoke up: "The boys are sure that our bomb broke up our game." No wonder the men became reckless and thought that our lives were charmed.

THE BOMB BROKE UP THEIR CARD GAME

Veteran of the 34th Virginia Tells of Miraculous Escape of Death-Defying Privates in the Petersburg Defenses.

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FARINHOLT'S RUSE DECEIVED ENEMY

J. B. Faulkner Recounts Strategy by Which Confederate Commander Saved the Day at Staunton River Bridge.

The two articles recently published in the Times-Dispatch, giving details of the battle at Staunton River Bridge on June 2, 1864, failed to note one of the most significant maneuvers of the engagement. In the course of the fight Colonel Farinholt had a train of empty cars run back and forth on the river at frequent intervals. Farinholt also ordered a number of his men to move about the cars when they arrived, and thereby created the impression that he was receiving reinforcements. This ruse had the desired effect. Wilson thought that he was facing a large army, and he hesitated to attack. Farinholt could withstand any attack made upon him. Wilson was likewise led to believe that Farinholt was placing troops along the banks of the river to prevent the crossing by the lower forces, then easily passable. But for this I think there is little doubt that the battle would have gone to the river, either to Elliott's Falls or to the mill and ferry. He could then have crossed without the least difficulty, or resistance could have been gained the rear of Farinholt's men. It would then have been easy to burn the bridge and march on to Danville. The Federal forces would have destroyed the railroad and cut off General Lee's supplies.

I am familiar with the facts in the case, because I happened to be one of Farinholt's scouts that day. We were stationed on the same side of the river with Wilson's forces on a hill that overlooked the entire field. We could see the valley of the river from a bridge 2,500 feet high, five miles below. We were as much deceived as was Wilson. When we saw the cars roll in and saw the men apparently disembarking, we felt sure that our men were being reinforced by every train. Our surprise was only heightened when we found out the facts.

Wilson, with 15,000 men, hesitated to retreat. He made no halt in that entire section except at Wellsville, a village six miles from the bridge. His men remained there for four hours, burning a store and moved on. The store, by the way, belonged to E. J. Barnes, who was engaged in the manufacture of fire bricks and retorts for the Tredegar Iron Works.

Before the battle at Staunton River Bridge, Colonel Farinholt had the high ground behind him, and in that section, but after his heroic conduct it became familiar to all. I often meet old men and women in the neighborhood, and when they find that I am from Middlesex they always talk about Farinholt.

To monument marks the field of that memorable encounter. One should certainly be erected to the eternal memory of the 700 men who defeated 15,000 men, losing only two men. Such feats are rare.

J. B. FAULKNER.

Stamp and Cola.
1. Will you kindly tell me whether or not the enclosed Confederate stamp is of any value?
2. Also if a silver half-dime coined in 1825 and a silver 3-cent piece bearing the date of 1852 are of any special value?
3. I have also a large copper coin bearing the date 1851. Is it of any value?
I enclose stamp for reply, and will appreciate any information you can give me in regard to the stamp and coins.
K. L. K.
Ginter Park, Va.
1. The stamp is worth 2 cents. 2. Bears no premium; 3-cent piece worth 6 cents. 3. No premium.

potatoes for family use have been cultivated for four years past. These living on place kept two cows of their own raising, and bought feed for same. If suit is brought would not three other children living off the place be entitled to rank as OLD SUBSCRIBER.

Landsey's Va.
You mention the place as inhabited by "children." Do you mean minors? Is there an executor? If a legatee is dissatisfied with the management of an executor he can make complaint. But in order to give an opinion in regard to the case in hand more accurate information than that furnished by you would have to be gone over. It is impossible to decide law points on vague and general mention.

Coins of 1852.
Kindly advise in your Query Column Sunday as to the value, if any, of 50-cent piece as per cut shown hereon. Date of coin 1852.

T. C. W.
It is valued at 51 cents in premium list.

Location of Salt Works.
In what county of West Virginia were the Kanawha Salt Works located, prior to and during the War Between the States?
J. M. C.
West Virginia was not admitted as a State until June 13, 1863. The Kanawha Salt Works are now, as formerly, located near Malden, Kanawha county, and salt is also found near Hartford, in Mason county. Kanawha county was formed in 1788 from Greenbrier and Montgomery counties. Mason county, in 1861, from Kanawha. Both counties, of course, belonged to Virginia until 1862.

How Situated?
Please answer in next Sunday's issue, is the city of Richmond legally situated in the county of Henrico?
J. B. K.
Richmond is territorially situated in the county of Henrico, though city and county are under separate jurisdictions, of course.

Social Questions.
Will you please give me this information in Sunday's paper:
1. Is it correct for a widow to retain her husband's full name or not?
2. Is it permissible for a widow to have a second wedding?
C. W. R.
Barton Heights.

1. Socially, yes; legally, no.
2. The wedding of to-day in England has set the fashion for America. No man ever puts on evening dress until making his toilet for his bridegroom dinner, in therefore, every bridegroom at a noon wedding a frock coat and trousers of any pattern he pleases. In other words, he wears a formal morning, or, as it is sometimes called, an afternoon dress suit. The bridegroom, may be dressed in his own dress, or he may wear a new dress, or he may wear a white satin, velvet and orange blossoms.

Husband and Wife.
I write for information in regard to husband and wife. Suppose a man marries a woman and goes to her home to live, while he has some land adjoining hers. Can he sell everything on his land and not spend it for his family? Should his wife have to board and clothe him and his children on the proceeds of her land and hire all the labor to cultivate her land? You will greatly oblige me by answering in your columns of the Times-Dispatch.
Y. G. L.
Barboursville, Va.

Concerning State Fair.
Kindly state in your next Sunday's paper whether there was a fair held on the present Fair Grounds during October, 1909.
N. E. H.

A Widow's Dowry.
Please answer the following question for me: Is there any law by which a widow can be disinherited? I am a widow, and a former will made by my husband's father to his bodily heirs, it is said, disinherits me. Please answer and mail me the copy.
J. D. H.
Martinsville, Va.

Literary Motto.
Will you please give me two literary terms, with three words, beginning with the letters T, A, M, either in English or Latin with Latin meaning.
Scranton, Va.
N. J.
Your letter restriction is impossible. A very good English motto is: "Every age hath its book." For a Latin motto try this: "Animo imperat sapiens," or "A wise woman will be mistress of her mind."

Is It Stars?
I have noticed for several weeks now a peculiarly bright star rising in the east each night. I saw in the daily paper that Mars is much nearer the earth right now. Is this large star I noticed Mars? Please answer in Sunday's Times-Dispatch.
MRS. B. C. CREWE, Va.

The evening stars at this time of the year include Venus, Mars, Mercury, until October 12, and Saturn beginning with October 13. It is probable that you have seen Mars if you have been making evening observations.

As to Coins.
Seeing a number of queries in your paper in regard to old coins, I write to ask if you can tell me of a coin collector in Richmond. I have two cents, one issued in 1805 and one in 1783. What is the premium on them?
Ashland, Va.
H. D.

I do not know a coin collector in Richmond though you may get the name of a private collector from one of the banks. Of your two cents, the one dated 1805 is quoted in premium lists at \$1.50. As there was no United States issue of copper coins until 1787, your 1783 cent is a very rare New York Colonial period. If you send full description the value will be approximately for you.

A Poem With Music.
Will you be kind enough to inform me by letter the proper way to offer for sale a song poem, what it would cost for copyright and publisher, and also what is the best way to begin. I have a complete poem with music, and has been pronounced good by people who should know, and I would like to find out how to dispose of it.
J. L. BERRY.
100 Bland Street, Bluefield, W. Va.

Write for Information.
I desire to "Librarian of Congress, Washington, D. C." and inclose stamped envelope for reply. Have typewritten and pen and ink copy of words and music and offer it for sale to a reliable publisher belonging to New York City. Be careful to send neat manuscript, and do not fold it.

Queries & Answers
Address: "Query Editor, Times-Dispatch, Richmond, Va." Sign real name. Give it desired fictitious name for publication. Persons asking for poems, etc., should send stamp.

10-17-09-14